



State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Energy Office

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NEWS RELEASE

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UTAH ENERGY OFFICE WILL BE THE FIRST STATE AGENCY TO BE POWERED BY 100 PERCENT POLLUTION-FREE WIND POWER

October is National Energy Awareness Month; the Department of Natural Resources' Utah Energy Office is kicking off the celebration by purchasing 100 percent of its electricity usage from clean renewable wind power. The pollution-free wind generated electricity will be purchased through Utah Power's Blue Sky Program, a green pricing program that allows customers to choose to pay a bit extra for pollution free wind power. This purchase is the first state agency purchase of wind power in the state of Utah.

Mike Glenn, Manager of the Utah Energy Office said, "It was an easy decision to purchase wind power, we support clean renewable energy sources and diversification of our electricity supply. Purchasing Wind Power demonstrates our support."

Sarah Wright, Coordinator of the Utah Wind Power Campaign, was thrilled that the Utah Energy Office decided to purchase wind power. "The Utah Energy Office purchase will prevent the emission of over 25 tons per year of carbon dioxide, a greenhouse gas. The purchase has the same environmental benefit as NOT driving an automobile over 53,000 miles per year or planting 10 acres of trees each year." The Wind Power Campaign is a non-profit effort to educate the public about their energy choices and to promote wind power.

"By purchasing wind power we not only limit our impact on the environment, but we also help build the market for wind power development in Utah," says Christine Watson, Engineer with the Utah Energy Office Wind Program. "By being the first to purchase wind power, the Utah Energy Office is supporting this cutting edge technology. We hope many other state agencies and local businesses will follow our example and purchase wind power."

The Utah Energy Office sponsored a workshop entitled 'Utah Wind Workshop – Emerging Opportunities' to promote wind development in Utah. The workshop was held on October 1, 2001 at the Salt Palace in Salt Lake City with 400 people in attendance.

For more information on the Utah Wind Power Campaign and the Utah Power Blue Sky program visit <http://www.utahgreenpower.org/> or <http://www.pacificorp.com/bluesky.html> or call Christine Watson (801) 538-4792 or the Energy Hotline (800) 662-3633.

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